



**ANIMAL PROTECTION & CONTROL
ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2009**

In Attendance:

Cheri Cornelius
Pat Jollota
Dr. Liz Grauer
Ginger Burr
Holly Blosser
Shirley Malar
Pat Vichas
Sue Svendsen

Staff:

Linda Moorhead
Adrienne Willows

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. Betty May Buntin & Ed Anderson had informed the board they would not be in attendance.

Reading and approval of the January minutes:

February minutes were approved with an amendment in red to page two, first paragraph, first sentence to read as follows:

*Any tether, fastener, chain, tie or other restraint permissible under this section must be attached to a properly fitted ~~body~~ harness **or collar** with enough room between the collar and the dog's throat through which two (2) fingers may fit. Choke, pinch or prong type collars may not be used for tethering, fastening, chaining, **or** tying ~~or otherwise restraining a dog.~~*

II. Orders of the day:

Tethering Ordinance

A work session was held on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 on proposed anti-tethering and off-leash code amendments. Linda Moorhead said that the BOCC agreed with the Advisory Board recommendation and those changes will be included in the next bi-annual code change adoption

hearing in June 2009.

Livestock in the Urban Growth Boundary-Task Force

Linda reported that the Urban Livestock Task Force made their recommendation regarding livestock in the urban growth boundary to the Board of Commissioners at a work session on April 22, 2009. The next step is to present the recommendation to the Planning Commission on June 18, 2009.

The recommendation of the task force is to allow livestock/agriculture in all urban zones, consistent with all zones in the County. How to handle minimum lot sizes, maximum animal units, small vs. large livestock, and setbacks were all debated extensively during the meetings of the task force. Ultimately, the recommendation is not to codify strict standards. However, new agricultural uses involving livestock on a parcel in an urban growth area with an approved development application will require a livestock management plan. Urban livestock owners may create their own plans or seek assistance from livestock management organizations such as Clark Conservation District or the CC Executive Horse Council.

The task force also suggested adopting language requiring three separate complaints to Code Enforcement on existing agriculture activity, resulting in the requirement for the responsible party to provide a livestock management plan.

Status of propose code amendments

Linda Moorhead said that when the amendment to CC 8.15.020 was discussed with the BOCC they asked that the off-leash proposal be reworked. They felt that requiring a secured fence or yard limits too many responsible dog owners who have trained their dogs to stay within the perimeter of their property.

The Advisory Board reconsidered and came up with the changes noted below:

Off – Premise 8.15.020

- (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, it is unlawful for an owner or custodian of a dog to permit such dog to be out side of ~~the confines of the owners adequately secured residence or yard~~ **the property lines of the owner/custodian(s) residential yard**, unless such dog is controlled with a leash. This includes common areas and shared easements unless it is permitted by the private property owner(s) and the dog is under control.

Spay/Neuter Applications

Pat Jollota, Pat Vichas and Ginger Burr reviewed the four spay/neuter applications that were received by March 31, 2009 for the \$15,000 grant money.

	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u> JAWS
	\$ 8,000	\$3,000
2nd Chance Companions	\$ 5,000	\$3,500
Southwest Washington Humane Society	\$ 5,000	\$5,000
Furry Friends	\$ 3,500	\$3,500

Board members all agreed with the recommendation. Linda will put the recommendation on the BOCC consent agenda for disbursement of funds.

Statistical Reports

Linda went over March 2009 stats. Adrienne Willows explained to the board the reasoning for such a high jump in percentages of service calls. Animal Control has found a more thorough system of tracking time that officers spend on each call in regards to Notices of Violations, Quarantines, follow ups and other necessary steps it takes to complete a case. This will give more accurate numbers when it comes to how much time is spent on preparing each case both in the office and in the field.

Lisa Feder stated that overall intake of cats and dogs is down for March and there was not a definite reason why. They are not finding a lot of animals being surrendered because of economic situations. She speculated that since the Humane Society did a big push on spay and neutering in February and March, where 400 cats were altered, that this may have something to do with it plus the fact that kitten season is running late.

Adoptions are down, and euthanasia for dogs doubled from last year. After some investigating Lisa found that this is due to 30 of the 61 dogs that were euthanized were pit bulls. The Humane Society will place pit bulls in homes, but they must be the “ambassador” of the breed.

The move to the new building should be sometime in June or July.

There was a general discussion on the program “Safe Haven”. It was designed as an option that the Domestic Violence program could refer women to for their pets. There has not been much outreach done on the program because of the lack of space the Humane Society has, but they are handled as they come in case by case.

III. Roundtable

Liz Grauer will be at the Walk for the Animals May 2, 2009.

Sue Svendsen said that employees would be donating to the Walk for the Animals.

Pat Jollota suggested to Sue that the Executive Horse Council may consider writing a letter to Commissioner Boldt about the actions taken by them to remove the livestock cruelty amendments to the ordinance.

IV. Public Forum

There was no public forum

V. Adjournment –

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Hearing Tribunal

One written appeal.

H:Advbd/04-23-09